IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7 and 11. **Please also amend** claims 1-4 and 10, as shown in the complete list of claims that is presented below.

1. (currently amended) An alignment system for aligning multilingual documents [[as]] ~~aligns the documents~~ written in n ~~sorts (~~ (n being a natural number of at least [[2]] 3) [[of]] languages, comprising:

morphological analysis means for dividing the document in each of the ~~languages,~~ languages ~~every word;~~ into individual words;

means for selecting two of the n ~~sorts of~~ languages of the documents;

means for computing an evaluation function for the documents in the two selected ~~sorts of~~ languages; [[and]]

means for aligning the documents in the n ~~sorts of~~ languages, in accordance with an evaluated result for the documents in the two ~~sorts of languages.~~ languages; and

means for detecting and displaying any mismatching part when alignments of the documents in at least three of the n languages of the documents have mismatched.

2. (currently amended) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said morphological analysis means includes means for segmenting the document in each of the languages ~~, every sentence,~~ into individual sentences and means for further dividing each of the ~~segmental~~ sentences ~~, every word.~~ into individual words.

3. (currently amended) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for selecting two of the n ~~sorts of~~ languages of the documents selects (n - 1) combinations of the k*th* and (k + 1) *th* documents [[(:]] (k being a natural number of 1 to (n - 1)) when the documents in the n ~~sorts of~~ languages are arranged in any desired sequence.

4. (currently amended) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for selecting two of the n ~~sorts of~~ languages of the documents selects n (n - 1) /2 combinations.

5. (original) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, further comprising computed result holding means for holding therein results computed with the evaluation function.

6. (original) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein the evaluation function is expressed by the following formula:

$$h(x, y) = 2 \times f_m(x, y) / (f_j(x) + f_j(y))$$

where $h(x, y)$ denotes the evaluation function, x denotes a sentence in one language (original sentence), y a sentence in the other language (translated sentence), $f_m(x, y)$ the number of independent words aligned in the sentences x and y, $f_j(x)$ the number of independent words in the sentence x, and $f_j(y)$ the number of independent words in the sentence y.

Claim 7 (canceled).

8. (original) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for computing an evaluation function aligns the documents while optimizing the alignment so that a sum of values of the evaluation function may be maximized.

9. (original) An alignment system for multilingual documents as defined in claim 1, further comprising means for indicating a language pair which affords a high correct solution rate of the alignment, while investigating similarity data between the pair of languages.

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10. (currently amended) [[An]] <u>A computer readable medium encoded with instructions for</u> aligning ~~method for~~ multilingual documents ~~as aligns documents~~ <u>written</u> in n ~~sorts (:~~ <u>(</u>n being a natural number of at least [[2]] <u>3</u>) [[of]] languages, ~~comprising:~~ <u>the instructions including instruction for:</u>

[[the]] <u>a</u> morphological analysis step of dividing the document in each of the languages<u>,</u> ~~every word;~~ <u>into individual words;</u>

[[the]] <u>a</u> step of selecting two of the n ~~sorts of~~ languages of the documents;

[[the]] <u>a</u> step of computing an evaluation function for the documents in the two selected languages; [[and]]

[[the]] <u>a</u> step of aligning the documents in the n ~~sorts of~~ languages, in accordance with an evaluated result for the documents in the two ~~sorts of languages.~~ <u>languages; and</u>

<u>a step of detecting and displaying any mismatching part when alignments of the documents in at least three of the n languages of the documents have mismatched.</u>

Claim 11 (canceled).